



KENYA

WINGS TO FLY

Every year, thousands of academically gifted and motivated Kenyan students drop out of school because they cannot afford to continue their secondary education. Wings to Fly, an innovative public-private partnership founded by the Equity Group Foundation, gives these top-performing but economically disadvantaged students an opportunity to pursue their academic dreams.

USAID supported 4,100 Wings to Fly scholars from 2011 - 2017. Collectively, the partnership has supported more than 14,000 scholars. Beneficiaries were provided full scholarships including tuition, room and board. Scholars also received leadership training, career guidance, and personal mentoring to help them maximize their potential.

OUR WORK

The Wings to Fly program supported students from every corner of Kenya through a highly competitive and transparent selection process. Only top scorers on national examinations from the poorest households were chosen for the program. The scholarship program allowed thousands of these young people to finish their secondary education, drive their own development agenda, and work towards building a nation with educated, self-reliant, and productive citizens.

Scholars' progress was closely monitored throughout the program. Participants were matched with mentors to boost their self-esteem and give them the academic and social tools to succeed in school and rise out of poverty.

ACHIEVEMENTS

With USAID support:

- 3,811 Wings to Fly scholars completed their secondary education; 357 completed tertiary education
- 70% of secondary school beneficiaries qualified to join local and international universities with funding from the Government of Kenya, development partners and private sector.
- 357 youth completed tertiary education and found employment
- 30 percent of Wings to Fly scholars began technical and vocational education and training through funding from other stakeholders in the Equity Group Foundation's partnership

The Wings to Fly program continues, after USAID support ended, through public-private sector financial support.

BUDGET \$20 million

DURATION
2011 – 2017

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS
Nationwide

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS
Equity Group Foundation

KEY PARTNERS
Ministry of Education, Equity Group Foundation, Equity Bank, MasterCard Foundation, UKAID, KfW

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